

DISCOVERY SCHOOL OF LANCASTER

302 West Dunlap Street
Lancaster, South Carolina 29720

GRADES K-5 Elementary School

ENROLLMENT 108 Students

PRINCIPAL Tom McDuffie 803-285-8430

SUPERINTENDENT Patricia K. Burns 803-286-6972

BOARD CHAIR Robert Folks 803-286-6972

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

2004

ABSOLUTE RATING:

EXCELLENT

Absolute Ratings of Elementary Schools with Students like Ours

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Unsatisfactory
14	8	1	0	0

IMPROVEMENT RATING:

GOOD

ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS:

YES

This school met 5 out of 5 objectives. The objectives included performance and participation of students in various groups and student attendance rate.

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WEBSITES AT:

WWW.MYSCSCHOOLS.COM

WWW.SCEOC.ORG

PERFORMANCE TRENDS OVER 4-YEAR PERIOD

	Absolute Rating	Improvement Rating	Adequate Yearly Progress
2001	Excellent	N/A	N/A
2002	Excellent	Good	N/A
2003	Excellent	Good	Yes
2004	Excellent	Good	Yes

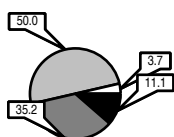
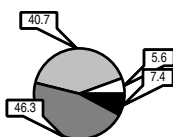
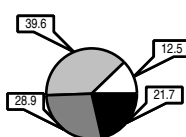
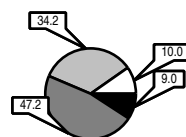
DEFINITIONS OF DISTRICT RATING TERMS





- Excellent - District performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Good - District performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Average - District performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Below Average - District is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Unsatisfactory - District performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal

PERCENT OF STUDENT RECORDS MATCHED FOR PURPOSES OF COMPUTING IMPROVEMENT RATING

Percent of students tested in 2003-04 whose 2002-03 test scores were located.

66.7%

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT)**Our School****Mathematics****Elementary Schools with Students like Ours****English/Language Arts****Mathematics****English/Language Arts****Definition of Critical Terms**

	Advanced	Very high score; very well prepared to work at next grade level; exceeded expectations
	Proficient	Well prepared to work at next grade level; met expectations
	Basic	Met standards; minimally prepared, can go to next grade level
	Below Basic	Did not meet standards; must have an academic assistance plan; the local board policy determines progress to the next grade level

NOTE: Science and social studies are to be included in the 2005 school report card.

PACT PERFORMANCE BY GROUP

	Enrollment 1 st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Below Basic	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Proficient and Advanced (adj.)	Performance Objective Met	Participation Objective Met
English/Language Arts - State Performance Objective = 17.6%									
All Students	54	100.0	5.6	40.7	46.3	7.4	68.5	Yes	Yes
Gender									
Male	28	100.0	10.7	50.0	35.7	3.6	57.1		
Female	26	100.0	0.0	30.8	57.7	11.5	80.8		
Racial/Ethnic Group									
White	38	100.0	5.3	36.8	47.4	10.5	73.7	I/S	I/S
African-American	16	100.0	6.3	50.0	43.8	0.0	56.3	I/S	I/S
Asian/Pacific Islanders	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Disability Status									
Not disabled	52	100.0	5.8	40.4	46.2	7.7	69.2		
Disabled	2	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Migrant Status									
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Non-migrant	54	100.0	5.6	40.7	46.3	7.4	68.5		
English Proficiency									
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Non-Limited English Proficient	54	100.0	5.6	40.7	46.3	7.4	68.5		
Socio-Economic Status									
Subsidized meals	10	100.0	10.0	60.0	30.0	0.0	70.0	I/S	I/S
Full-pay meals	44	100.0	4.5	36.4	50.0	9.1	68.2		

Mathematics - State Performance Objective = 15.5%									
All Students	54	100.0	3.7	50.0	35.2	11.1	68.5	Yes	Yes
Gender									
Male	28	100.0	7.1	39.3	39.3	14.3	67.9		
Female	26	100.0	0.0	61.5	30.8	7.7	69.2		
Racial/Ethnic Group									
White	38	100.0	0.0	42.1	44.7	13.2	76.3	I/S	I/S
African-American	16	100.0	12.5	68.8	12.5	6.3	50.0	I/S	I/S
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Disability Status									
Not disabled	52	100.0	3.8	48.1	36.5	11.5	71.2		
Disabled	2	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S	I/S
Migrant Status									
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Non-migrant	54	100.0	3.7	50.0	35.2	11.1	68.5		
English Proficiency									
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	I/S	I/S
Non-Limited English Proficient	54	100.0	3.7	50.0	35.2	11.1	68.5		
Socio-Economic Status									
Subsidized meals	10	100.0	10.0	60.0	20.0	10.0	50.0	I/S	I/S
Full-pay meals	44	100.0	2.3	47.7	38.6	11.4	72.7		

DEFINITION OF ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS

As required by the United States Department of Education, adequate yearly progress specifies that the statewide target is met for All Students and for the following subgroups: Racial/Ethnic, Subsidized Meals, Disability, and Limited English Proficiency.

Abbreviations for Missing Data
N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample

PACT PERFORMANCE BY GRADE LEVEL

		<i>Enrollment 1st Day of Testing</i>	<i>% Tested</i>	<i>% Below Basic</i>	<i>% Basic</i>	<i>% Proficient</i>	<i>% Advanced</i>	<i>% Proficient and Advanced</i>
English/Language Arts								
2003	Grade 3	18	100.0	5.9	47.1	41.2	5.9	47.1
	Grade 4	18	94.4	6.3	43.8	50.0	N/A	50.0
	Grade 5	17	100.0	N/A	76.5	17.6	5.9	23.5
	Grade 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2004	Grade 3	18	100.0	N/A	22.2	55.6	22.2	77.8
	Grade 4	18	100.0	5.6	50.0	44.4	N/A	44.4
	Grade 5	18	100.0	11.1	50.0	38.9	N/A	38.9
	Grade 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mathematics								
2003	Grade 3	18	100.0	N/A	41.2	47.1	11.8	58.8
	Grade 4	18	100.0	5.9	47.1	29.4	17.6	47.1
	Grade 5	17	100.0	5.9	47.1	23.5	23.5	47.1
	Grade 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2004	Grade 3	18	100.0	N/A	50.0	38.9	11.1	50.0
	Grade 4	18	100.0	5.6	44.4	38.9	11.1	50.0
	Grade 5	18	100.0	5.6	55.6	27.8	11.1	38.9
	Grade 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Grade 8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Elementary Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Elementary School
Students (n= 108)				
First graders who attended full-day kindergarten	100.0%	N/C	97.5%	100.0%
Retention rate	0.0%	N/A	1.8%	2.7%
Attendance rate	97.7%	Down from 97.8%	97.0%	96.4%
Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	0.0%		2.2%	4.6%
Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (Math) off grade level	0.0%		2.7%	3.5%
Eligible for gifted and talented	57.4%	Up from 38.9%	25.9%	13.5%
On academic plans	N/AV	N/AV	N/A	N/AV
On academic probation	N/AV	N/AV	N/A	N/AV
With disabilities other than speech	0.0%	Down from 1.1%	6.6%	8.2%
Older than usual for grade	0.0%	No change	0.6%	0.9%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No change	0.0%	0.0%

Teachers (n= 8)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	62.5%	Down from 66.7%	59.5%	51.4%
Continuing contract teachers	75.0%	Down from 100.0%	87.8%	87.5%
Highly qualified teachers**	85.7%	N/A	95.1%	95.0%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	16.7%		0.0%	0.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	82.2%	Up from 0.0%	88.6%	86.7%
Teacher attendance rate	97.1%	Up from 89.9%	95.8%	94.9%
Average teacher salary	\$40,832	Up 1.1%	\$42,772	\$40,760
Prof. development days/teacher	16.1 days	Up from 12.6 days	12.0 days	12.4 days

School				
Principal's years at school	4.0	Up from 3.0	6.5	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	18.0 to 1	Up from 17.8 to 1	20.3 to 1	18.9 to 1
Prime instructional time	92.0%	Up from 85.0%	91.3%	90.0%
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$5,475	Down 12.5%	\$6,021	\$6,044
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	78.1%	Up from 74.7%	68.5%	65.9%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No change	Good	Good
Parents attending conferences	99.0%	No change	99.0%	99.0%
SACS accreditation	No	No change	Yes	Yes
Character development program	Good	N/A	Good	Good

* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

	Our District	State
Highly qualified teachers in low poverty schools**	92.7%	92.0%
Highly qualified teachers in high poverty schools**	90.9%	91.1%
	State Objective	Met State Objective
Highly qualified teachers in this school**	65.0%	Yes
Student attendance in this school	95.3%	Yes

**NOTE: The verification process was not completed for the year reported; therefore the count of highly qualified teachers may not be accurate.

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Discovery School of Lancaster County is a public charter school conceived by the Lancaster County School District. Faculty and staff, in partnership with parents, provide services to 108 students through a focus on standards-based instruction combined with the Core Knowledge curricular sequence. With rigorous curriculum and innovative teaching techniques, Discovery School fills a niche in the school district for students and parents who share the school's vision.

Discovery School supports the mission of the Lancaster County School District. It provides services to a diverse population of students in a unique learning environment with special emphasis on creativity and flexibility. Students are encouraged to excel in one or more areas of intelligence. In addition, Discovery School promotes professional development opportunities for educators throughout the district.

Accomplishments during the 2003-04 school year include the following: received the Palmetto Gold Award from the SC Department of Education for outstanding student achievement; met the Adequate Yearly Progress goal of federal No Child Left Behind legislation; offered foreign language instruction (Spanish and Japanese) to all students; received an Excellent rating on the school report card from the previous year; parents contributed more than 3000 hours of volunteer service during the school year; obtained a Charter School Dissemination Grant which provided staff development opportunities for dozens of district teachers; created Personal Education Plans for 100 percent of the students served; and participated in the Exemplary Writing Award Program.

We are very pleased with the progress made by students at Discovery School and look forward to our fifth year of operation.

Glenn Hoffman, School Improvement Council Chairman
Tom McDuffie, Site Manager

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	8	18	17
Percent satisfied with learning environment	87.5%	94.4%	100.0%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	75.0%	83.3%	94.1%
Percent satisfied with home-school relations	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

*Only students at the highest elementary school grade level at this school and their parents were included.